

EXHIBIT 1

July 22, 2021

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

SHABTAI SCOTT
individually and as
personal representative
of the Estate of Keren
Shatsky, J ANNE
SHATSKY, individually
and as personal
representative of the
Estate of Keren
Shatsky, TZIPPORA
SHATSKY SCHWARZ, YOSEPH
SHATSKY, SARA SHATSKY
TZIMMERMAN, MIRIAM
SHATSKY, DAVID RAPHAEL
SHATSKY, GINETTE LANDO
THALER, individually
and as personal
representative of the
Estate of Rachel
Thaler, LEOR THALER,
ZVI THALER, ISAAC
THALER, HILLEL
TRATTNER, RONIT
TRATTNER, ARONS.
TRATTNER, SHELLEY
TRATTNER, EFRAT
TRATTNER, HADASSA
DINER, Yael HILLMAN,
STEVEN BRAUN, CHANA
FRIEDMAN, ILAN
FRIEDMAN, MIRIAM
FRIEDMAN, YEHIEL
FRIEDMAN, ZVI FRIEDMAN,
and BELLA FRIEDMAN,

Case No. 18-Civ. 12355

VIRTUAL VIDEOTAPED
DEPOSITION OF FEDA
ABDELHADY-NASSER

Plaintiffs,

against

July 22, 2021

1
2 THE PALESTINE
3 LIBERATION ORGANIZATION
4 and THE PALESTINIAN
5 AUTHORITY (a/k/a "The
6 Palestinian Interim
7 Self-Government
8 Authority" and/or "The
9 Palestinian National
10 Authority"),

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Defendants.

July 22, 2021

1 VIRTUAL VIDEOTAPED DEPOSITION OF FEDA

2 ABDELHADY-NASSER, witness herein, called by the
3 Plaintiffs, for examination, taken pursuant to
4 the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, by and
5 before Karen A. Nickel, a Certified Realtime
6 Reporter and a notary public in and for the
7 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, held remotely
8 with all parties appearing from their
9 respective locations, on Thursday, July 22,
10 2021, at 9:30 a.m.

11 COUNSEL PRESENT:

12 For the Plaintiffs:

13 Ronald F. Wick, Esq. (Admitted Pro Hae Vice)
14 Cohen & Gresser, LLP
2001 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Suite 300
15 Washington, DC 20006

16 Stephen M. Sinaiko, Esq.
17 Cohen & Gresser, LLP
800 Third Avenue
New York, NY 10022

18 For the Defendants:

19 Mitchell R. Berger, Esq.
20 Joseph Alonzo, Esq.
Salim Kaddoura, Esq.
Squire Patton Boggs
21 2550 M Street NW
Washington, DC 20037

22 Also Present: Cosette Vincent
23 Eszter Vincze
24
25

July 22, 2021

I N D E X

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THESE PAGES HAVE BEEN
INTENTIONALLY OMITTED

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1 Q. Got it.

2 A. And, actually, some of the times --
3 some of the things seem to have been
4 duplicated. And it was probably when I did
5 that.

6 Q. When you say "some of the things
7 seem to have been duplicated," what do you mean
8 by that?

9 A. I mean that there seems to be the
10 same meeting twice successively.

11 Q. Can you point to any examples of
12 that on the page in front of you?

13 A. I would say, for example -- not on
14 the page in front of me, no, but I have seen it
15 in the document at one point. I don't remember
16 where it was. But what it was was that a
17 meeting began and ended, and where it began was
18 listed as a meeting and where it ended was
19 listed as the same meeting again. But it was
20 actually one meeting.

21 Q. Got it. So if we come across those,
22 you know, maybe we'll recognize those and we'll
23 try to call them out.

24 Going back to the text that we were
25 looking at a moment ago, it says, there again,

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1 this is for February 5 at 2200 hours or
2 probably 1000 hours, interaction with civil
3 society organizations on UN topics.

4 Do you see that?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. What do you understand a civil
7 society organization to be?

8 A. Civil society encompasses all
9 dimensions of the international community
10 beyond the governmental, as far as I understand
11 it. It includes non-governmental
12 organizations, NGOs, academia, journalists,
13 cultural institutions and others.

14 Q. But they are organizations; is that
15 correct?

16 A. Civil society can be an individual
17 working in their capacity as, for example, a
18 scholar or a professor, or it can be an
19 organization. It can be individuals or
20 organizations.

21 Q. And when in time did you develop
22 your understanding of the meaning of the term
23 "civil society organization" that you just
24 described for me?

25 A. Early on in my work. That was my

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1 understanding of civil society and what my
2 engagement with civil society would encompass.

3 Q. By the way, the private lunch, on
4 the third line of this page that I recognize
5 was later deleted, did that lunch -- did that
6 event occur at the building at 165 East -- or
7 115 East 65th Street?

8 A. No, it did not.

9 Q. Can you think of any example of any
10 human being or organization that would not fall
11 within the rubric of a civil society
12 organization?

13 MR. BERGER: Objection,
14 argumentative.

15 BY MR. SINAIKO:

16 Q. You may answer.

17 A. If it is related to my work at the
18 United Nations, if the individual or
19 organization is approaching me in connection
20 with my work as a representative of the State
21 of Palestine at the United Nations, then to me,
22 it is a legitimate civil society request. That
23 is how I see it.

24 If a student, for example, is doing
25 research on Palestine at the United Nations and

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1 wants to understand about the history of the
2 Palestine question and the General Assembly and
3 approaches me, to me, that is a member of civil
4 society that I should be responsive to.

5 Q. So any person or organization who
6 approaches you to ask about, you know, a
7 subject related to your work as Deputy
8 Permanent Observer, that person or organization
9 falls within the category of civil society
10 organization; correct?

11 A. Correct. In my view, if they are
12 obviously, they have to have some kind of
13 affiliation, a student with a university, a
14 professor, someone working with an
15 organization. It's not usually someone off the
16 street that would ask me about my work as the
17 Deputy Permanent Observer.

18 But if I was approached, either by a
19 phone call or a letter or an E-mail or in an
20 event, about my work at the UN, then I would
21 consider that to be a legitimate civil society
22 interaction.

23 Q. Going to the second part of this
24 text that we were looking at a moment ago, it
25 says, UN topics.

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1 Do you see that?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. What do you understand UN topics to
4 mean?

5 A. Issues regarding Palestine at the
6 UN.

7 Q. Anything other than that?

8 A. I wouldn't be discussing anything
9 other than that. That is my expertise. That
10 is my purview.

11 Q. Okay. So to the extent that -- to
12 the extent that this document that we have
13 marked as Exhibit 5 references UN topics, it is
14 just this question of Palestine that you
15 referred to a moment ago; is that correct?

16 A. Yes, that is correct.

17 Q. To come back to a question I asked a
18 moment ago, which I'm not sure I got a complete
19 answer to, can you give me an example of
20 anybody that you would speak to, in your
21 capacity as Deputy Permanent Observer, who
22 would not fall within the category of civil
23 society organizations?

24 A. I cannot think of anyone that I
25 would speak to, in my capacity as the Deputy

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1 Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine,
2 that would not fall into civil society, again,
3 if they had a formal affiliation with a school
4 or with an NGO or with an IGO or a humanitarian
5 or human rights organization.

6 MR. BERGER: Now that the
7 witness has finished answering the question,
8 may I ask for clarification, whether you mean
9 to put aside, Steve, those who are representing
10 other Member States of the United Nations?

11 MR. SINAIKO: Of course. I
12 mean, yeah, I thought that was implicit in the
13 question, but if you want, I can ask the
14 question again with that qualifier in it.

15 BY MR. SINAIKO:

16 Q. Maybe it would be better if I just
17 asked Ambassador Abdelhady-Nasser whether she
18 understood that to be excluded from my
19 question.

20 A. Yes, I did.

21 MR. SINAIKO: Let's mark as
22 our next exhibit, I think this will be Exhibit
23 6, a document that is at Tab 17 A in our book.

24 (Deposition Exhibit No. 6 was
25 marked for identification.)

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1 BY MR. SINAIKO:

2 Q. Ambassador Abdelhady-Nasser, I would
3 ask you whether you have seen this document
4 before today?

5 A. Yes, I have.

6 Q. Do you recognize this document?

7 A. Yes, I do.

8 Q. And when was the first time you saw
9 this document?

10 A. I guess about two weeks ago.

11 Q. Two weeks ago. And do you tie that
12 document to your initial meeting with
13 Mr. Berger about two weeks ago?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. And what do you recognize this
16 document to be?

17 A. This is my calendar of engagements,
18 work assignments, as reflected in the grid.

19 Q. Let me ask the question a little
20 differently. Do you understand Exhibit 7 -- I
21 guess we're on Exhibit 6, do you understand
22 that to be a different version of Exhibit 5
23 that we were looking at a moment ago?

24 A. I believe it's the same thing, only
25 it identifies who I was meeting with.

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1 Q. And do you know -- do you know when
2 in time that document was prepared?

3 A. I don't know the exact timeline.

4 Q. Okay. Did you have a role in
5 preparing the document that has been marked as
6 Exhibit 6 and is on the screen in front of you
7 now?

8 A. I gave them my calendar.

9 Q. Apart from that, did you have any
10 role in preparing this document?

11 A. I did not type this document, no.

12 Q. Did you provide any of the
13 descriptive information, apart from delivering
14 your -- withdrawn. Let me put the question
15 again.

16 Apart from supplying your -- the
17 Excel spreadsheet, into which you had
18 downloaded your Google calendar, to your
19 lawyers, did you have any role in preparing the
20 text that's in the subject column of this
21 document?

22 A. The text reflects what I sent to my
23 lawyers; the name of the diplomat that I met
24 with, the person that I met with.

25 Q. Did you review this document before

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1 it was delivered to the Plaintiff?

2 A. Yes, I did.

3 Q. And did you find any inaccuracies in
4 it when you reviewed the document?

5 A. No, I did not.

6 Q. All right. I would like you to
7 focus for a moment on the first line of the
8 first page of this document. You see there it
9 says, internal Palestine UN Mission business?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. Was that text in the calendar that
12 you supplied to Mr. Berger and his colleague?

13 A. No.

14 Q. And do you know whether this
15 reflects an event?

16 A. It would reflect either a staff
17 meeting or some other interaction with my
18 colleagues at the Mission.

19 Q. And do you know where the event took
20 place?

21 A. At the Mission.

22 Q. Do you know who was in attendance at
23 this meeting?

24 A. It would be my colleagues at the
25 staff. It was the beginning of the year, so

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1 everyone would have returned from holidays,
2 from the New Year, and it was probably the
3 staff meeting to launch the year.

4 Q. And what -- do you know -- can you
5 tell me what topics were discussed during this
6 meeting?

7 MR. BERGER: Objection,
8 instruct the witness not to answer on the basis
9 of functional immunity.

10 BY MR. SINAIKO:

11 Q. And Dr. Abdelhady-Nasser, are you
12 going to follow your counsel's instruction?

13 A. Yes, I am.

14 Q. One last question about that first
15 entry. Was there anybody at this meeting that
16 is described in the first line of Exhibit 6 --
17 it was a meeting; is that correct?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. Was anybody other than Observer
20 Mission staff in attendance at that meeting?

21 A. No.

22 Q. Go to the next line. It says,
23 personal note about UN Mission business?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. Does this reflect that there was a

July 22, 2021

1 personal note in your calendar?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. And under what circumstances would

4 you put a personal note in your calendar?

5 A. I often put in reminders to myself
6 about readings that I have to do or documents
7 that I have to prepare, if it's a speech I need
8 to write or a memorandum, I remind myself to
9 answer E-mails or to follow up on various
10 issues.

11 So the personal notes in my calendar
12 are usually about tasks that I am individually
13 responsible for or taking care of or need to
14 follow up on.

15 Q. And without telling me the subject
16 of the task, can you tell me the type of task
17 that is reflected by this entry, the second
18 line on Exhibit 6?

19 A. It would be any number of those
20 things. It could be, again, a letter that I
21 was writing or a report that I was finishing,
22 because the year had concluded and we would
23 have to do reports to reflect on the previous
24 year.

25 Q. Right. I guess my question is, as

July 22, 2021

1 the person whose calendar is reflected here,
2 can you tell me what type of -- you know,
3 again, without telling me what the topic was,
4 because I know Mr. Berger will object to that,
5 and maybe I'll ask, maybe I won't, but for the
6 moment, can you tell me the type of personal
7 note that this was?

8 A. I believe I was writing a
9 recommendation letter.

10 Q. And this recommendation letter was,
11 in some fashion, related to the business of the
12 Observer Mission?

13 A. Yes, it was. It was about an
14 intern.

15 Q. All right. Go to an entry that's on
16 the first page here, February, and I'm just
17 going to give you the timestamp that's on the
18 document, although I recognize that the
19 timestamps are probably not accurate, but it's
20 a good way for us to work our way through.

21 I am looking at an entry that says,
22 February 5, 2020 at 2200. Do you see that one?

23 A. Yes, I do.

24 Q. And that says, interaction with
25 civil society organization, Professor Grob, on

July 22, 2021

1 UN topic; do you see that?

2 A. Yes, I do.

3 Q. What does that entry reflect?

4 A. It reflects a meeting that I had
5 with Professor Grob, who is a civil society
6 individual. He is not an organization. He is
7 a professor affiliated with Fairleigh Dickinson
8 University who often reaches out to me to
9 discuss the trajectory of the Palestine
10 question at the UN and to propose ideas and
11 initiatives to consider undertaking at the UN.

12 Q. Professor Grob, that's Leonard Grob;
13 correct?

14 A. Correct.

15 Q. Okay. And how is it that you
16 conclude that he is appropriately classed as a
17 civil society organization?

18 A. Because Professor Grob is a
19 professor. He works in an academic
20 institution. And --

21 Q. So if

22 A. he partners with another
23 professor and they often deal with
24 Israel/Palestine. But their focus has often
25 has been in their engagements with me on the UN

July 22, 2021

1 angle and how to engage the UN angle for
2 Israeli/Palestinian peace.

3 Q. And would it be fair to say that you
4 regard Professor Grob as a civil society
5 organization on account of his interest in
6 issues related to the UN and Palestine?

7 MR. BERGER: I'm going to
8 object to the form of the question. You have
9 twice misstated, after she told you she doesn't
10 regard him as an organization but as an
11 individual.

12 If you want to ask the question, go
13 right ahead.

14 MR. SINAIKO: I'm just reading
15 from your document, but the witness can answer
16 the question and I would ask the court reporter
17 to repeat it first.

18 (Reporter read back previous
19 question.)

20 THE WITNESS: I regard
21 Professor Grob as an active individual in civil
22 society based on his interest and work on
23 Israel/Palestine.

24 BY MR. SINAIKO:

25 Q. Professor Grob doesn't have any

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1 direct connection to the United Nations so far
2 as you know; correct?

3 A. I know that Professor Grob meets
4 with a lot of UN diplomats, including from
5 other countries, but, specifically, PS
6 countries, permanent members of the Security
7 Council and other Arab countries in the Middle
8 East, particularly Egypt, Jordan and others.

9 Q. He doesn't hold any title with the
10 United Nations; correct?

11 A. Fairleigh Dickinson University has a
12 relationship with the United Nations, as do
13 other universities.

14 Q. Professor Grob, he doesn't have any
15 title with the United Nations; does he?

16 A. No, he does not.

17 Q. He is not an employee of the United
18 Nations; is he?

19 A. No, he is not.

20 Q. He doesn't have any other formal
21 connection to the United Nations of which you
22 are aware; correct?

23 A. I am not aware of any other formal
24 connection to the United Nations.

25 Q. I would direct your attention,

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1 Ambassador Abdelhady-Nasser, to the third line.

2 A. Uh-huh.

3 Q. Do you see there it says,
4 interaction with Rana Hajjaj of civil society
5 organization Al-Quds Bard College, on UN topic?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. What is Al-Quds Bard College?

8 A. Bard College is an academic
9 institution here in New York and they have a
10 branch of the college in Jerusalem called
11 Al-Quds Bard College.

12 Q. Is that affiliated with Al-Quds
13 University?

14 A. No. I believe they are separate.

15 Q. And who is Rana Hajjaj?

16 A. She is a director at Bard College
17 that oversees partnerships for Al-Quds Bard
18 College.

19 Q. And how does Al-Quds Bard College
20 qualify as a civil society organization?

21 A. It is a university.

22 Q. So all universities, in your view,
23 qualify as civil society organizations?

24 A. They are part of the civil society
25 environment or scope, this huge sphere of civil

July 22, 2021

1 society that, again, from my understanding,
2 includes academia, academia in toto, in its
3 entirety, university professors, students,
4 cultural centers, global centers in a
5 university, for example.

6 Q. In your view, would it be fair to
7 say that any university -- I'm sorry. There
8 was an echo in the line. I will put the
9 question again.

10 Would it be fair to say that, in
11 your view, any university, college or other
12 academic institution qualifies as a civil
13 society organization?

14 A. That is my understanding.

Q. And what was the nature of the event
that is reflected on this line on Exhibit 6?

A. The one with Rana Hajjaj?

18 Q.

A. She had asked me to discuss -- well,
20 she was presenting her program and seeking
21 possible partnerships through the UN Global
22 Education Initiative.

23 Q. What is her program?

24 A. She supervises the Al-Quds Bard
25 College program which offers academic courses

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1 to Palestinian students in the West Bank.

2 Q. What type of partnership was she
3 seeking?

4 A. With UN institutions. The UN
5 Division For Palestinian Rights partners with
6 certain colleges and universities for capacity
7 building, for training, for other things, and,
8 often, academics and others participate in
9 events that are organized by the Committee on
10 the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of
11 Palestinian People, and the UN Division For
12 Palestine Rights is a secretary arm of that
13 committee, so she was seeking an introduction.

14 Q. She was seeking an introduction.
15 Was she seeking to form a partnership with the
16 Observer Mission?

17 A. No. Because we do not partner -- we
18 cannot partner with universities.

19 Q. Why is that?

20 A. Because our work is focused on the
21 UN as diplomats. We don't enter into
22 partnerships with universities or other civil
23 society organizations. But often, civil
24 society individuals will contact us to, if they
25 are interested in working on Palestine or

July 22, 2021

1 Israel/Palestine as sort of an entry point to
2 the UN on this issue.

3 Q. Let's go down to the line that's at
4 February 20, 2020 at 1730 hours. Do you see
5 that one?

6 A. 1730?

7 Q. Yes, ma'am.

8 A. South Africa?

9 Q. That's right. Can you explain to me
10 what the event was that's reflected there?

11 A. That was the meeting with the
12 political coordinator of the Permanent Mission
13 of South Africa to the United Nations.

14 Q. Understood. And who were the
15 participants in that event?

16 A. It was myself and the political
17 coordinator.

18 Q. Where did that event take place?

19 A. At the United Nations.

20 Q. Let's go down to the very the
21 very next entry. It says, interactions with
22 CEIRPP bureau meeting. Can you tell me what
23 that event was?

24 A. The CEIRPP is the UN Committee on
25 the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the

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1 Palestinian People. There is a small bureau
2 composed of various countries chaired by
3 Senegal. Palestine is a part of that bureau,
4 so that was a meeting of the bureau of that
5 committee.

6 Q. And why is this meeting -- why is
7 this meeting on this list as opposed to the
8 main calendar that we looked at a few minutes
9 ago, if you know?

10 A. I don't know.

11 Q. Did you have any input into
12 determining which entries from your calendar
13 would be placed on this list versus which
14 entries would be placed on the main calendar
15 that we looked at a few minutes ago?

16 A. I think that, in general, closed
17 meetings that were not public meetings on UN
18 premises in the General Assembly or in the
19 Security Council or in one of the committees
20 were placed on this list. And so the bureau
21 meeting would be a closed meeting.

22 There wouldn't be anybody in
23 attendance, except the Ambassadors or Deputy
24 Ambassadors of the bureau, which is just a few
25 handful of countries, and those bureau meetings

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1 are not a matter of public record.

2 Q. Go down to the entry that's on
3 February 28, 2020 at 1600. Do you see that
4 one?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. That one says, interaction with
7 civil society organization Fairleigh Dickinson
8 University on UN topics. Do you see that?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. Was that a meeting that was attended
11 by anyone affiliated with the UN, other than
12 yourself?

13 A. No, just myself.

14 Q. And I think -- can you tell us what
15 the nature was of the event that's reflected in
16 this on entry on the calendar?

17 A. It was a meeting with the global
18 education department at Fairleigh Dickinson
19 University, and it was about their Model UN
20 program.

21 Q. What aspects of their Model UN
22 program did this meeting concern?

23 A. About the possibility of my speaking
24 to the Model UN program on Palestine's work at
25 the UN.

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1 Q. And did you, in fact, ever do that?

2 A. No, I did not, because the pandemic
3 happened. So I met with them, introductions
4 were made, and then two weeks later, everything
5 came to a full stop.

6 Q. Understood. And when you say --
7 when you say UN topics in this entry, you're
8 talking about -- you're talking about the
9 request that you appear and speak to or
10 participate in the Model United Nations at
11 Fairleigh Dickinson University?

12 A. Yes. It included the request for me
13 to speak at the Model UN and also discussion
14 about the status of the Palestine question at
15 the UN, because it was the director of the
16 Global Education and Affairs Department.

17 Q. Where did this event take place?

18 A. At Fairleigh Dickinson University.

19 Q. This was an in-person meeting?

20 A. Yes, it was.

21 Q. And apart from the representative of
22 Fairleigh Dickinson and yourself, was anybody
23 else in attendance?

24 A. No.

25 Q. Was Professor Grob at the meeting?

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1 A. No, he was not. But I did mention
2 that I knew Professor Grob. I thought it was a
3 very small world.

4 Q. Let's move a few more pages into the
5 document and go to the entry on September 22,
6 2020 at 1700. Let me know, Ambassador
7 Abdelhady-Nasser, when you have that line in
8 front of you.

9 A. I see it.

10 Q. And you see that it says,
11 interaction with Arab Group and Judge Emmanuel
12 I'm going to get this wrong -- Ugirashebuja?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. So can you tell me what this -- can
15 you tell me what this entry reflects?

16 A. It was a meeting of the Arab Group
17 at the UN, and it was a request by Judge
18 Emmanuel to present his candidacy to the Arab
19 group.

20 So when certain judges or diplomats
21 or others are seeking appointments or election
22 at the UN, they lobby groups. They lobby the
23 Arab group, they lobby the African group, they
24 lobby the eastern European group.

25 And so I was in attendance in this

July 22, 2021

1 Arab Group meeting and he came to present his
2 candidacy.

3 Q. And what is the Arab Group? Sorry
4 for not knowing. What is the Arab Group?

5 A. The Arab Group is the constellation
6 of 22 Arab countries, including the State of
7 Palestine. It is currently 21 because Syria is
8 suspended from the Arab Group at the moment.

9 Q. So what was Judge Emmanuel looking
10 to be appointed or elected?

11 A. I don't actually recall if it was
12 for the ICJ or the -- I believe it was for the
13 ICJ, but I'm not sure, actually.

14 Q. And by ICJ, you mean the
15 International Court of Justice?

16 A. Correct.

17 Q. Let's go back to March 9, 2020, at
18 14:00. Okay. This is the third line up from
19 the bottom of the page. Do you see that,
20 Ambassador?

21 A. Yes, I do.

22 Q. And do you see it says, interaction
23 with civil society organization, Palestine
24 Institute for Public Diplomacy on UN topics?

25 A. Yes, I do.

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1 Q. And what is the Palestine Institute
2 for Public Diplomacy?

3 A. It is a non-governmental
4 organization based in Ramallah.

5 Q. It is not part of the United
6 Nations; correct?

7 A. No, it is not.

8 Q. And was this I guess we're
9 getting right up to the line here. Was this an
10 in-person event or was this a virtual event of
11 some sort?

12 A. It was a phone call.

13 Q. And who were the participants in the
14 phone call?

15 A. Myself and someone from the PIPD.

16 Q. Okay. And when you say this was a
17 when you say that this is an event that
18 concerned UN topics, what do you mean?

19 A. The individual from the PIPD was
20 calling to ask me about initiatives that we
21 would be undertaking at the UN in the coming
22 year, including the annual exhibit at the
23 United Nations on the International Day of
24 Solidarity with the Palestinian people.

25 Q. Okay. Let's go to March 17, 2020 at

July 22, 2021

1 1900. The first one on this page, actually.

2 Do you see that one, Ambassador

3 Abdelhady-Nasser?

4 A. I see it.

5 Q. Who is Michael Lynk?

6 A. Michael Lynk is the UN Special
7 Rapporteur on the human rights situation in the
8 occupied Palestinian territory.

9 Q. And Ardi Imseis?

10 A. Ardi Imseis is a professor and a
11 lawyer based in Canada. He liaises with the UN
12 Division For Palestinian Rights on legal
13 issues. He is often presented at the seminars
14 and he is also part of the Commission of
15 Inquiry of the United Nations on Yemen.

16 Q. And a -- does Professor Imseis have
17 any formal role at the United Nations
18 currently?

19 A. Yes, he does. He is part of the UN
20 Commission of Inquiry on Yemen. It's a high
21 level panel of experts.

22 Q. Where did this event take place?

23 A. On the phone.

24 Q. And where were you when you took
25 this phone call?

July 22, 2021

1 A. At home.

2 Q. Going down two lines, on March 17,
3 at 1800.

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. It says, interaction with civil
6 society organization Professor Boon on UN
7 topics. Do you see that?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. What was the nature of this event?

10 A. Professor Boon was a professor at
11 Seton Hall University that had E-mailed me to
12 request to speak with her students at Seton
13 Hall Law School about Security Council
14 resolutions on Palestine, and that was a phone
15 call that we had. In light of the lockdown,
16 she wanted to figure out how we could still
17 have that interaction with her students.

18 Q. Did the interaction with Professor
19 Boon's students ever occur?

20 A. Yes, it did.

21 Q. When was that?

22 A. That occurred at the end of March.

23 Q. And is that on your calendar here?

24 A. Yes, it is.

25 Q. Which entry is that on your

July 22, 2021

1 calendar?

2 A. It's March 30, 2020.

3 Q. At 1600?

4 A. Yes, correct.

5 Q. So during this -- this entry here,
6 interaction with civil society org -- oh, I
7 see. I'm so sorry. Now I see it. That was
8 actually the next thing on my list, in any
9 event.

10 So interaction with civil society
11 organization Seton Hall on UN topics, that
12 entry, am I correct, reflects your conversation
13 with Professor Boon's students?

14 A. Yes, correct.

15 Q. And what were the topics that you
16 discussed with Professor Boon's students?

17 A. The focus was on Security Council
18 resolutions, particularly Security Council
19 Resolution 2334 of 2016, and the Palestine
20 question, in general, at the UN.

21 Q. Where were you physically located
22 during this interaction with civil society
23 organization Seton Hall on UN topics, that took
24 place on March 30th at 1600?

25 A. I was at home.

July 22, 2021

1 Q. And what was the purpose of your
2 conversation with Professor Boon's students on
3 March 30, 2000?

4 MR. BERGER: Objection, asked
5 and answered, but you may answer again.

6 THE WITNESS: I was responding
7 to a request by Professor Boon to speak to her
8 students on the specific topic, based on my
9 expertise as an Ambassador and a Deputy
10 Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine to
11 the United Nations.

12 Often professors seek that kind of
13 input, that kind of expertise to be shared with
14 their students, to give them a sense of real
15 life diplomacy or even some background
16 information that they wouldn't otherwise have
17 been able to read in the newspaper or some
18 other coverage of events at the UN.

19 BY MR. SINAIKO:

20 Q. Would it be fair to say that you
21 participated in that event in your capacity as
22 Deputy Permanent Observer?

23 A. Yes. Absolutely.

24 Q. And would it be fair to say that
25 during that -- well, withdrawn.

July 22, 2021

1 Would it be fair to say that one of
2 the purposes of your discussion with Professor
3 Boon's students or your presentation to
4 Professor Boon's students was to put forward
5 the Palestinian view?

6 A. Yes. Everything that I do, in my
7 capacity as the Ambassador Deputy Permanent
8 Observer of the State of Palestine, I represent
9 the perspective, the view, the cause of the
10 Palestinian people.

11 Q. Would it be fair to say that during
12 the conversation you had or the presentation
13 you made to Professor Boon's students at Seton
14 Hall, that you were advocating for the cause of
15 the Palestinian people to Professor Boon's
16 students?

17 MR. BERGER: Objection to the
18 form of the question. Asked and answered and
19 argumentative. But you may answer again.

20 MR. SINAIKO: Could the court
21 reporter read the question back for the
22 witness, please?

23 (Reporter read back from the
24 record.)

25 THE WITNESS: When I speak at

July 22, 2021

1 the United Nations or with any civil society
2 organization, I speak in support of the rights
3 of the Palestinian people as per international
4 law, including humanitarian and human rights
5 law.

6 I do so within the framework of
7 international law and of UN resolutions
8 because, despite the fact that I have been
9 doing this now for 29 years to no avail, I
10 still believe that international law and UN
11 resolutions are the way to the realization of
12 the inalienable rights of the Palestinian
13 people.

14 So when I speak, again, at the UN or
15 with any civil society organization, I do so
16 with conviction that this is the path to
17 justice and peace.

18 BY MR. SINAIKO:

19 Q. And your purpose in speaking to
20 Professor Boon's students was to persuade them
21 of your point of view; correct?

22 A. No, it was not. It was to present a
23 reflection of my work at the UN on behalf of
24 the State of Palestine and the Palestinian
25 people, to give them an understanding of what

July 22, 2021

1 we do and why we do it, why do we seek General
2 Assembly resolutions on the Palestine question,
3 why do we engage at the Security Council. In
4 specific, Professor Boon asked me to address
5 the Security Council dimension of the Palestine
6 question at the UN.

7 So it was to explain how we engage
8 as diplomats and why we engage in the UN
9 context.

10 Q. By the way, this event or -- this
11 event that's covered by the entry on your
12 calendar that we're looking at now, this March
13 30, 1600 event, do you know whether this event
14 was open to anybody other than Professor Boon's
15 students?

16 In other words -- let me leave the
17 question as is. Do you know whether the event
18 was open to anybody other than the students in
19 Professor Boon's class?

20 A. I was told by Professor Boon that it
21 was only herself and her students, and that
22 those that are represented on the screen were
23 all of her students in that specific --

24 Q. So it was done by Zoom, is that
25 right, or something equivalent to the Zoom?

July 22, 2021

1 A. I think it was MS Teams. To be
2 quite honest, I mean, I couldn't even get my
3 picture up. So I had my -- it was like my
4 initials. It was the beginning of using all of
5 this technology.

6 Q. Right. I appreciate that.

7 A. Yeah.

8 Q. Okay. Let's go down to May 11, 2020
9 at 2030 hours.

10 A. Uh-huh.

11 Q. It says, interaction with civil
12 society organization, Professors Grob and
13 Segal, on UN topics?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. I think you had mentioned before
16 that Professor Segal had a cohort who sometimes
17 engages in, you know, in these issues with him?

18 A. Yes. Professor Grob's partner is
19 Professor Segal. They are like a team.

20 Q. So Professor Grob, in this entry, is
21 the same guy we talked about before at
22 Fairleigh Dickinson University; correct?

23 A. Correct.

24 Q. And who is Professor Segal, by the
25 way?

July 22, 2021

1 A. Professor Jerome Segal.

2 Q. Well, Professor Grob, I think we
3 have been introduced to, but Professor Segal,
4 where does he teach?

5 A. I don't actually know his university
6 affiliation. I know that he is an author, he
7 writes columns. I believe he is somewhere in
8 Baltimore.

9 Q. Is he a professor at all?

10 A. He signs his E-mails Professor
11 Jerome Segal, so I am assuming it's legitimate.

12 Q. He calls himself Professor?

13 A. He is, I am assuming he is a
14 professor because he calls himself Professor
15 Segal.

16 Q. Understood. Okay. And you regard
17 Professor Segal as a civil society
18 organization?

19 A. Yes, I do.

20 Q. On account of his interests in these
21 Palestine issues that are -- that you also work
22 on before the United Nations?

23 A. Yes, correct. He often, as I said,
24 writes columns and journalistic pieces on
25 Palestine at the UN. I know that he is an

July 22, 2021

1 author of certain books, or he is currently
2 authoring a book.

3 Q. And do you recall the nature of this
4 interaction that's reflected on this calendar
5 at May 11 at 2030 hours?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. What was the nature of it?

8 A. Professors Grob and Segal were
9 presenting an idea to me that would be launched
10 in the UN General Assembly.

11 Q. Go to June 22, 2020 and,
12 specifically, 1900 hours.

13 A. Uh-huh.

14 Q. There is an entry there that says,
15 interaction with Anita at division?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. Can you tell me the nature of that
18 event, the event that is reflected in that
19 calendar entry?

20 A. It was a phone call with Anita
21 Mathur, who was the secretary of the UN
22 Division For Palestinian Rights. It was a
23 farewell phone call.

24 Q. So Anita is or was, at the time, a
25 departing official at the United Nations?

July 22, 2021

1 A. Correct. Well, she was leaving the
2 UN Division For Palestinian Rights to go to
3 another UN department.

4 Q. Understood. Okay. Let's go to the
5 bottom of the page, third line up from the
6 bottom, interaction with Michael O'Toole of
7 Ireland. Do you see that one?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. Who is Michael O'Toole?

10 A. Michael O'Toole was with the UN
11 Mission of Ireland, Permanent Mission of
12 Ireland to the United Nations.

13 Q. And what was the nature of this
14 event?

15 A. Michael was a first secretary. He
16 had the among his files that he was
17 responsible for was Palestine/Israel, and this
18 was a farewell lunch.

19 Q. That's obviously not in person at
20 that time; right?

21 (Discussion held off the
22 record.)

23 THE COURT REPORTER: Excuse
24 me. You both cut out and I didn't hear after
25 "that is obviously not in person at that time."

July 22, 2021

1 MR. SINAIKO: I can repeat
2 that for you, Karen. I said, obviously, at
3 that time, it was not an in-person event, and
4 then Ambassador Abdelhady-Nasser responded, but
5 I don't want to repeat her response. I'll just
6 let her give it again.

7 THE WITNESS: I said that it
8 was an in-person event because it was outdoors
9 in July.

10 BY MR. SINAIKO:

11 Q. Go to the very next entry. It says,
12 interaction on UN topics for Indonesia Ph.D.
13 dissertation.

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. Can you tell us what event is
16 reflected in that entry?

17 A. This was a discussion with a
18 student, an Indonesian student, who was the
19 daughter of an Indonesian diplomat to the UN,
20 who was doing research on Palestine.

21 Q. And this person, this daughter was
22 not herself affiliated with the UN in any way;
23 correct?

24 A. No, she was not. She was doing her
25 dissertation, and her parent, who was a

July 22, 2021

1 diplomat, connected her with me to discuss
2 Palestine at the UN.

3 Q. And what topics did you discuss with
4 her around Palestine and the UN?

5 A. We discussed everything from UN
6 General Assembly Resolution 181 all the way to
7 the present day.

8 Q. And you have had those conversations
9 in your official capacity as Deputy Permanent
10 Observer?

11 A. Yes, I did. She was tapping into my
12 expertise.

13 Q. And was one of your purposes in
14 having that conversation to advocate for the
15 cause of the Palestinian people?

16 A. That one, no, because I was simply
17 answering her questions as to Palestine at the
18 UN. So she asked me the questions, and I would
19 answer. And it was strictly about her
20 research.

21 Q. And do you remember the name of this
22 student?

23 A. I do not.

24 Q. Would you put the name of the
25 student in your calendar?

July 22, 2021

1 A. I don't actually recall. I don't
2 think so. I think it was an extremely long
3 name, and the reminder to myself in the
4 calendar was just to remind myself that I was
5 speaking with the Ph.D. student.

6 Q. Understood. Did anybody participate
7 in this conversation other than you and the
8 student?

9 A. No. It was just myself and the
10 student. And it was a phone call on WhatsApp.

11 Q. Would it be fair to say that you
12 regard any discussion of your work at the
13 Observer Mission as involving a UN topic?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. Would it be fair to say that you
16 regard any conversation relating to the
17 question of Palestine, as you put it, as
18 involving a UN topic?

19 A. Yes. Every dimension of the
20 Palestine question is covered at the UN. It
21 is, actually, and this is something that is
22 often noted by UN diplomats, the
23 longest-standing agenda item at the United
24 Nations.

25 Q. Let's go to August 3, 1500. Do you

July 22, 2021

1 see that one is in the middle of the page?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. Do you see that that says,
4 interaction with Brian Flynn of Ireland?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. What does that entry reflect, what
7 events does that entry reflect?

8 A. Brian Flynn is the Deputy Permanent
9 Representative of the Irish Mission to the UN.

10 Q. And what does this calendar entry
11 reflect?

12 A. It was a virtual meeting that we had
13 following Ireland's election to the Security
14 Council.

15 Q. Got it. And let's go to the very
16 next line. You see it says, interaction with
17 Ileana of Romania?

18 A. Uh-huh.

19 Q. What does that entry reflect?

20 A. Ileana is the Deputy Permanent
21 Representative of Romania to the UN, and that
22 was a lunch.

23 Q. Is Ileana her first or last name?

24 A. It is her first name.

25 Q. Go to April -- I'm sorry, August 5th

July 22, 2021

1 at 1700, same page.

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. It says, interaction with Georg of
4 Liechtenstein?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. What does that entry reflect?

7 A. Georg is the Deputy Permanent
8 Representative of Liechtenstein to the UN.

9 Q. And what does the entry reflect,
10 what sort of event?

11 A. It was a phone call from Georg to
12 myself about work at the UN General Assembly.
13 There was a draft resolution that Liechtenstein
14 was seeking support for.

15 Q. Let's go to September 16th at 2000
16 hours.

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. Here it says, interaction with civil
19 society organization Greg Khalil on UN topics.
20 Do you see that?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. Tell me what that entry reflects.

23 A. That reflects a phone call with Greg
24 Khalil, who is a former colleague who is now
25 teaching a course at Columbia University and is

July 22, 2021

1 a co-founder of the Telos Group.

2 Q. And what is -- you say that Greg
3 Khalil was a former colleague. What do you
4 mean by that?

5 A. He used to work for the NSU, the
6 Negotiation Support Unit, of the PLO.

7 Q. Got it. And you regard you
8 regard him -- well, withdrawn.

9 When you say "the PLO," you mean the
10 Palestine Liberation Organization, one of the
11 Defendants in this case; correct?

12 A. Correct.

13 Q. And what is this unit that he worked
14 with at the Palestine Liberation Organization?

15 A. Many years ago he worked for the
16 Negotiation Support Unit, and in 2004, when we
17 went to the International Court of Justice,
18 that is when I met Greg and we became friends.

19 Q. What is the Negotiation Support Unit
20 or what was it?

21 A. It was a unit that provided
22 technical support on negotiations to the
23 Palestinian leadership. It's based in
24 Ramallah.

25 Q. And Mr. Khalil now teaches at

July 22, 2021

1 Columbia, I think you said?

2 A. He teaches one course at Columbia,
3 but his main work is with the Telos Group.

4 Q. What is the Telos Group?

5 A. It is a faith-based organization
6 that seeks to promote reconciliation between
7 Palestinians and Israelis using faith as a
8 source of good, not confrontation.

9 Q. And this event that's reflected in
10 this line on your calendar, interaction with
11 civil society organization Greg Khalil on UN
12 topics, can you tell me what this -- what this
13 event concerned?

14 A. It was a phone call between Greg and
15 myself. We were, basically, catching up. And
16 he was telling me about his work and I was
17 telling him about my work at the UN. And he
18 actually commented that I was running around in
19 circles because what I told him we were doing
20 at the UN was the same thing I said ten years
21 ago.

22 Q. And how does Mr. Khalil qualify as a
23 civil society organization?

24 A. He is the co-founder of Telos, which
25 is a faith-based organization that engages in

July 22, 2021

1 civil society work to promote reconciliation
2 and peacemaking.

3 Q. Let's go to October 19, 2020, at
4 1930. And I think this is the fourth line down
5 on the page. Do you see that, Ambassador
6 Abdelhady-Nasser?

7 A. Yes, I do.

8 Q. You see that it says, interaction
9 with civil society organization NRC on UN
10 topics?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. What is NRC?

13 A. The Norwegian Refugee Council.

14 Q. What does this entry in your
15 calendar reflect?

16 A. It was a phone call with Itay
17 Epshtain of the Norwegian Refugee Council, and
18 he was discussing a report that the NRC had
19 recently presented to the UN.

20 Q. What was that report?

21 A. It was about the humanitarian
22 situation in the occupied Palestinian
23 territory.

24 Q. Right. And what is the, to the
25 extent you know, the purpose of this Norwegian

July 22, 2021

1 refugee committee?

2 A. The Norwegian Refugee Council
3 provides humanitarian support in many countries
4 around the world, including in Palestine, and
5 Itay was, I guess you could say, doing outreach
6 prior to the convening of the Fourth Committee
7 of the UN General Assembly, to which these
8 reports are very relevant because two of the
9 agenda items in the Fourth Committee concern
10 Palestine, and, particularly, the UNRWA agenda
11 item, U-N-R-W-A, which is the UN agency
12 responsible for Palestine refugees, and NRC
13 engages with UNRWA.

14 Q. Let's go to a couple of lines down
15 the page, October 27th at 1400?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. Ambassador Abdelhady-Nasser, do you
18 see that it says there, interaction with Greta,
19 UNRWA rep?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Who is Greta?

22 A. Greta Gunnarsdottir is the UNRWA
23 representative here in New York to the UN.

24 Q. She is an official at the United
25 Nations?

July 22, 2021

1 A. She is an official of the United
2 Nations. She represents the United Nations
3 Relief and Works Agency for Palestine refugees.

4 Q. Let's go to November 3, 2020 at
5 1500. Do you see that one? It says, internal
6 Palestine UN Mission business?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. Do you know what that entry
9 reflects?

10 A. It reflected a meeting with one of
11 my colleagues in preparation for draft
12 resolutions that we were submitting to the
13 General Assembly, in specific, to the Fourth
14 Committee.

15 Q. Can we, for one moment, go back? I
16 think this is Exhibit 6. Can we go back to
17 Exhibit 5 for a moment?

18 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Would you
19 like to go off the record, Mr. Sinaiko?

20 MR. SINAIKO: No need. I
21 think we can get back to that exhibit quickly.
22 And if we could just go to the same date,
23 November 3 at 1500.

24 BY MR. SINAIKO:

25 Q. Do you see, for the same day, there

July 22, 2021

1 is a different there's actually a different
2 entry. Do you see that, the same date and
3 time, November 3, 2020 at 1500?

4 A. Yes, I see that.

5 Q. It says, interaction with civil
6 society organizations on UN topics; right?

7 A. That's what it says.

8 Q. Right. And so I guess what I'm
9 wondering is which one of those I assume
10 that those entries are intended to refer to the
11 same event because they're at the same time and
12 on the same date and they are the only ones on
13 that date and time.

14 A. I think -- I believe that the entry
15 that says, internal Palestine Mission business,
16 is the correct entry. That is not --

17 Q. Okay. Understood. I was just
18 trying to clarify the discrepancy between the
19 two documents.

20 So this one here, so whatever
21 happened on November 3, 2020 at 1500 in your
22 calendar, that was not interaction with civil
23 society organizations on UN topics?

24 A. No, it was not.

25 Q. Is that right?

July 22, 2021

1 A. You are correct.

2 Q. It was an error. That's fine.

3 Okay.

4 MR. SINAIKO: Could we go back
5 to the Exhibit 6 now? Thanks, Cosette.

6 Okay. And let's go to December 2nd
7 of 2020. And I'm looking at 2000 hours.

8 BY MR. SINAIKO:

9 Q. It says, interaction with Division
10 For Palestinian Rights?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. Tell me what the nature of the event
13 was that this entry refers to.

14 A. It was a meeting with the UN
15 Division For Palestinian Rights.

16 Q. What is the Division For Palestinian
17 Rights? Sorry for not knowing.

18 A. It is the UN Secretary Support Unit
19 for the UN Committee on the Exercise of the
20 Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People,
21 and it's a General Assembly mandated
22 department.

23 Q. Got it. Go to the -- 2100.

24 A. I'm sorry, what was the date?

25 Q. September 8th of 2020.

July 22, 2021

1 A. Uh-huh.

2 Q. 2100. I mean, I recognize these are
3 just the times that are on the list. They are
4 not

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. You know, I assume that it wasn't at
7 9:00 at night, and it doesn't much matter.

8 Do you see, it says, interaction
9 with Peter Mulrean, former UNRWA representative
10 in New York?

11 A. Right.

12 Q. And who is Mr. Mulrean?

13 A. Peter Mulrean was formally the UNRWA
14 representative in New York, and it was a phone
15 call to discuss the status of UNRWA at the time
16 in -- as of December of 2020, but it was also a
17 friendly phone call because Peter had retired.

18 Q. Got it. And can you tell me more
19 specifically what you discussed with
20 Mr. Mulrean?

21 A. We discussed the status of UNRWA.

22 Q. When you say "the status of UNRWA,"
23 what do you mean?

24 A. UNRWA was experiencing financial
25 difficulties towards the end of 2020, and

July 22, 2021

1 Peter, as a representative of UNRWA prior to
2 his retirement, was very much involved in
3 seeking international support to UNRWA,
4 including humanitarian funding support.

5 Q. And by the fall or by, I guess, the
6 date, December 8th of 2020, was it the case
7 that personnel from the Observer Mission were
8 back in the building, at least on an occasional
9 basis?

10 A. At least, yes, on an occasional
11 basis.

12 Q. Do you know where you were when you
13 had this conversation with Mr. Mulrean on
14 December 8th of 2020?

15 A. I was at home.

16 Q. And going back for a moment to the
17 discussion that you had with Professor Boon's
18 students at Seton Hall, that we discussed a few
19 minutes ago, where were you physically located
20 when you had that conversation?

21 A. I was at home.

22 Q. All right. Let's go to the next
23 page. Looking at January 27, 2021, 1630
24 hours

25 A. Uh-huh.

July 22, 2021

1 Q. There it is. Okay. Do you see that
2 says, interaction with DPR?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. What was the nature of the event
5 reflected in this entry in the calendar?

6 A. So, actually, that is one of the
7 examples of the duplications. I think that
8 when I exported my calendar to Excel,
9 interaction with DPR is the same thing as the
10 interaction relating to division mapping
11 project meeting.

12 DPR refers, in this case, to the
13 Division For Palestinian Rights. The entry
14 above it was Division.

15 The way that this happened is that I
16 put in the entry, which is much more
17 descriptive, interaction relating to division
18 mapping project meeting, in my calendar. When
19 the division sent me an invite to MS Teams and
20 I clicked accept, then it comes alongside that
21 and they called it, you know, DPR.

22 That is their handle. And so there
23 are two entries at the same time. But it is
24 only

25 Q. Got it.

July 22, 2021

1 A. because I accepted the
2 invitation.

3 Q. Understood. And what is the
4 division mapping project?

5 A. It is a project that the UN Division
6 for Palestinian Rights is undertaking to map
7 the voting patterns of UN Member States on the
8 Palestine question.

9 Q. And what does DPR stand for? Oh,
10 that's Division of Palestinian Rights?

11 A. Correct.

12 Q. I was just reacting to the entry
13 immediately below which also uses that, but I
14 think I know what DPR refers to in that second
15 entry. Maybe you can just tell us what it is.

16 A. It is, typically, used to refer to
17 any Deputy Permanent Representative at the UN.

18 Q. And in the case of your entry on
19 January 28, 2021, for 1800, that DPR of Japan
20 refers to the Deputy Permanent Representative
21 of Japan to the United Nations?

22 A. Correct.

23 Q. Okey-dokey. Go to February 25th of
24 2021, at 1930. And you see this one says,
25 interaction with Muna Amara, student working on

July 22, 2021

1 Master's thesis on the Palestine question at
2 the UN Security Council?

3 A. Correct.

4 Q. What does this entry reflect?

5 A. It reflects a phone conversation
6 that I had with a student, after she conveyed a
7 request to the Palestine Mission to speak with
8 one of the diplomats to better inform her
9 thesis on the Palestine question and,
10 particularly, at the Security Council because
11 she was researching the comparison between
12 resolutions adopted under Chapter 6 or Chapter
13 7 of the charter.

14 Q. And where were you physically
15 located when you had this conversation with
16 Muna?

17 A. I was at home.

18 Q. Let's go to March 1 of 2021, at
19 1900. Do you see that? It says, interaction
20 with US UNSC?

21 A. Uh-huh.

22 Q. What does that entry reflect?

23 A. That is with the -- that was a
24 meeting with the U.S. -- the U.S. Mission team
25 to the UN Security Council.

July 22, 2021

1 Q. And let's go to March 4, at 2020 --
2 March 4, 2021, at 2200.

3 A. Uh-huh.

4 Q. Do you see that says, interaction
5 with APG DPR?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. Can you tell me what that entry
8 reflects?

9 A. That is the -- APG refers to the
10 Asia-Pacific Group at the United Nations, and
11 it is the DPR group of the Asia-Pacific
12 countries.

13 Q. What is the DPR group of the
14 Asia-Pacific countries?

15 A. It is the Deputy Permanent
16 Representatives of each of the Asia-Pacific
17 countries.

18 Q. Got it. Okay. Thank you. Let's go 19
to March 19, 2021 at 1300.

20 A. Uh-huh.

21 Q. Do you see that entry -- that entry
22 reads, interaction relating to "meeting on
23 Afghan women"?

24 A. Correct.

25 Q. Can you tell me what that entry

July 22, 2021

1 reflects?

2 A. That was a UN meeting on the
3 situation of Afghan women. March is when the
4 UN Commission on the Status of Women is
5 convened every year. The Afghan Ambassador had
6 asked if I could be present. And Afghanistan
7 is a Vice Chair of the UN Committee on the
8 Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the
9 Palestinian People. I attended their event in
10 solidarity. It was a virtual event. I was a
11 passive participant. I did not speak.

12 Q. Now, let's go to March 19 at 1700,
13 which is actually the penultimate entry on this
14 page.

15 A. Uh-huh. Yes.

16 Q. Do you see, that says, interaction
17 with Itay of Norwegian Refugee Council civil
18 society organization on UN topics. Do you see?

19 A. Correct, yes, I see it.

20 Q. Can you tell us what that entry
21 reflects?

22 A. Itay Epshtain, again, of the
23 Norwegian Refugee Council, had reached out to
24 me regarding the submission of a new NRC report
25 to the human rights -- to the UN Human Rights

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1 Council, and he was actually physically present
2 in New York at that time and had been meeting
3 with various UN Missions about the NRC report
4 on the humanitarian situation in the occupied
5 Palestinian territory. But I did not meet with
6 him in person. We met virtually by Zoom.

7 Q. And where were you physically
8 located when you did that?

9 A. I was at home. I had not yet been
10 vaccinated.

11 Q. Okay. Let's go to the very next
12 entry on the page. It says, interaction with
13 PAL DPR. That one is another one where it
14 looks like the two entries have the same date
15 and timestamp. I wonder if that might not be
16 another instance of a double entry?

17 A. I think that is one of them. So
18 that is the Division for Palestinian Rights
19 again, and I think that that was a meeting that
20 should have been canceled in my calendar,
21 because it had been postponed to a later date
22 because I would not have been able to double
23 book.

24 Q. What is PAL DPR?

25 A. The Division for Palestinian Rights.

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1 Q. Got it. Okay. Let's go to March
2 30, 2021 at 1700. Do you see this one says,
3 interaction with Yale University civil society
4 organization on UN topics?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. And what is the civil society
7 organization to which this entry refers?

8 A. It was a Yale University student
9 paper, one of the journalists for their student
10 paper that wanted to talk about the medical
11 situation in Palestine, UN support to Palestine
12 in the context of COVID-19 and vaccines, the
13 access to vaccines.

14 Q. Do you know do you understand
15 that the person -- let me just back up a little
16 bit.

17 What was the nature of the event
18 that's reflected in this entry?

19 A. It was a phone call. That was the
20 event.

21 Q. Phone call between yourself and a
22 student journalist?

23 A. Yes. She had sent an E-mail to the
24 Palestine Mission, to our general Mission
25 E-mail. It was forwarded to me by a secretary

July 22, 2021

1 who said, can you speak to her to answer her
2 questions, and I did.

3 Q. And do you know what publication
4 this student journalist worked for?

5 A. It was a Yale University newsletter
6 or paper.

7 Q. Got it. And did you speak with the
8 student well, strike that.

9 Do you recall the name of the
10 student journalist you spoke with?

11 A. I recall her first name was Ruqaiya.

12 Q. I'm sorry?

13 A. Ruqaiya. Her first name was
14 Ruqaiya.

15 Q. Can you spell that?

16 A. It was R-U-Q-A-I-Y-A.

17 MR. BERGER: Just like it
18 sounds.

19 MR. SINAIKO: Sure. I tried,
20 but I'm not that good.

21 BY MR. SINAIKO:

22 Q. When you spoke with this student
23 journalist, you were acting in your official
24 capacity as Deputy Permanent Observer; correct?

25 A. Yes, I was. As I said, she reached

July 22, 2021

1 out to the Palestine Mission to speak with a
2 representative of the Mission to the UN to gain
3 further knowledge on the subject.

4 Q. Was this student looking for a
5 particular type of comment from you?

6 A. She asked me several questions about
7 the COVID-19 situation in Palestine and about
8 access to vaccines and the kind of assistance
9 and support that Palestine was receiving in
10 accessing vaccines, including through the UN
11 COVAX facility.

12 Q. Do you know whether your comments to
13 the student journalist actually made their way
14 into a publication of any kind?

15 A. I'm not sure. I don't know.

16 Q. You don't know one way or the other;
17 correct?

18 A. I mean, I'm assuming she may have
19 used it for -- to inform her article.

20 Q. But you don't know?

21 A. I don't know.

22 Q. One way or the other, you don't
23 know?

24 A. No, I don't know. I have not seen a
25 piece that had been produced. It may have

July 22, 2021

1 been, but I have not read it.

2 Q. And was one of your purposes in
3 speaking to the student journalist to advocate
4 for the Palestinian cause?

5 A. In my capacity as the Ambassador,
6 Deputy Permanent Observer of the State of
7 Palestine, I always speak in support of the
8 Palestinian people and in support of the cause.

9 And so I would always speak
10 favorably in regards to Palestinian rights,
11 including their right in the midst of a global
12 pandemic, to access vaccines and medical
13 assistance.

14 Q. Let's go to April 20, 2021 at 1500
15 hours. Do you see this one? Can you read that
16 entry for me?

17 A. Yes. Interaction with civil society
18 organization Wayne Hills High School on UN
19 topics.

20 Q. And what is Wayne Hills High School,
21 to your knowledge?

22 A. It is a high school in Wayne, New
23 Jersey.

24 Q. And you regard Wayne Hills High
25 School as a civil society organization?

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1 A. I do. Schools are part of larger
2 civil society, many schools participate in
3 Model UNs. In a non-pandemic year, we might
4 get multiple requests by schools whose Model UN
5 team is assigned to represent Palestine, again,
6 a very big topic at the UN, and so the schools
7 often reach out to have Palestinian diplomats
8 inform their students so they can better model
9 our delegation at the UN conferences or
10 simulations that they participate in.

11 Q. So any high school, any college, any
12 educational institution qualifies as a civil
13 society organization in your view?

14 MR. BERGER: So that's at
15 least the sixth time you have asked that
16 question. So I will object that it has been
17 asked and answered and it's still
18 argumentative.

19 BY MR. SINAIKO:

20 Q. You can answer.

21 MR. BERGER: You may answer.

22 MR. SINAIKO: Can the court
23 reporter read the question back, please?

24 (Reporter read back from the
25 record.)

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1 THE WITNESS: Yes, in my view,
2 schools, universities, colleges, qualify as
3 civil society because they are non-governmental
4 institutions, entities, that are engaged in
5 organized functions such as education, training
6 and otherwise.

7 BY MR. SINAIKO:

8 Q. And can you provide a description of
9 the event that is reflected in this interaction
10 with civil society organization Wayne Hills
11 High School on UN topics entry in your
12 calendar?

13 A. Yes. So the professor, the teacher,
14 asked me to speak to his history class because
15 they had been studying the Middle East, they
16 had been studying Israel/Palestine. He was
17 I don't know if the Israeli representative
18 spoke before me to the students or after, but
19 he wanted to present both sides of the story to
20 his high school students to inform them.

21 And he wanted them to understand
22 about the diplomatic process at the UN on this
23 issue.

24 Q. Were there any participants -- well,
25 do you remember the name of the teacher?

July 22, 2021

1 A. The teacher's name was Chris, either
2 Ness or van Ness.

3 Q. And the teacher's students, were
4 they participants in this call as well?

5 A. Yes, they were. They were on the
6 Zoom.

7 Q. And where were you physically
8 located when you participated in this Zoom
9 call?

10 A. I was still at home. I had not yet
11 been vaccinated.

12 Q. And you mentioned a moment ago that
13 either before or after you spoke to this class,
14 a representative of Israel also spoke to them;
15 correct?

16 A. I was informed by the teacher that
17 this is their -- this is how they do things,
18 that they like to present both sides.

19 Q. Understood. So your position in
20 speaking with these students, then, was to
21 present the Palestinian side; correct?

22 A. It was to present Palestine's
23 diplomatic work at the UN. That is what I can
24 speak to. That is what I have been doing for
25 29 years.

July 22, 2021

1 Q. Understood. It was to present the
2 Palestinian side of the story; correct?

3 A. It was to present the efforts of
4 Palestine at the UN in the context of an
5 ongoing search for the achievement of
6 Palestinian rights, justice and a peaceful
7 solution to the Israeli/Palestinian conflict.

8 And as a diplomat, it is always my
9 objective to present the peaceful diplomatic
10 search for a solution to the
11 Israeli/Palestinian conflict as the best way to
12 resolve the conflict.

13 Q. And you made that presentation to a
14 group of high school students; correct?

15 A. Correct.

16 Q. Let's go to April 26, 2021 at 1400.
17 That's just a few stops down the page.

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. Do you see that one? It says,
20 interaction with civil society organization HRW
21 on UN topics.

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. What is HRW?

24 A. It is Human Rights Watch.

25 Q. What is Human Rights Watch?

July 22, 2021

1 A. It is a global human rights
2 organization, non-governmental organization.

3 Q. And what is the nature of the event
4 that is reflected in this entry from your
5 calendar?

6 A. Human Rights Watch was going to
7 present or launch a new report that they had
8 done that concerned Israel/Palestine, and the
9 representative of Human Rights Watch to the UN,
10 Louis Charbonneau, with two of his colleagues,
11 were -- had reached out to the Mission to
12 discuss the report and the possibility of
13 presenting the report at the UN, including in
14 an event that would be hosted by the UN
15 Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable
16 Rights of the Palestinian People.

17 Q. And do you know whether this report
18 was, in fact, presented at the United Nations?

19 A. It was presented by a discussion in
20 which one of the authors of the Human Rights
21 Watch report participated in an event that was
22 hosted by the UN, yes.

23 Q. And what was the content of this
24 report, if you know?

25 A. It was called A Threshold Crossed,

July 22, 2021

1 and it concerned the determination by Human
2 Rights Watch that Israel has crossed the line
3 and it practices apartheid.

4 Q. And what was the purpose of your
5 discussion on April 26, 2021 with Human Rights
6 Watch concerning this report?

7 A. They reached out to us to inform us
8 about the impending launch of the report and to
9 explore the possibility of presenting the
10 report within the UN context.

11 Q. What aspect of that were they
12 looking to discuss with you?

13 A. Well, Palestine is a member of the
14 UN Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable
15 Rights of the Palestinian People as well as the
16 bureau, and often, virtual events are held
17 where civil society organizations present to
18 the committee, present reports, their work.

19 It can be international civil
20 society organizations like Human Rights Watch,
21 like Amnesty International, it can be Israeli
22 human rights organizations like B'Tselem, Yesh
23 Din. It can be Palestinian human rights
24 organizations like Al-Haq or others.

25 So they were exploring the

July 22, 2021

1 possibility of making a presentation of their
2 report to the committee.

3 Q. And what were they -- I mean, what,
4 if anything, were they looking for from you in
5 that regard?

6 MR. BERGER: Objection, calls
7 for speculation.

8 BY MR. SINAIKO:

9 Q. So far as you understand.

10 A. They were presenting to us the
11 substance of the report so that we could make a
12 recommendation to the committee and the bureau
13 as to whether this would be appropriate to
14 present in the UN context.

15 Q. Okay. Let's go back to Exhibit 4.
16 We can put it on the screen. I don't know,
17 Ambassador Abdelhady-Nasser, do you have a
18 physical copy of the document in front of you
19 now?

20 A. I do.

21 Q. Oh, good. We can -- I mean, if it's
22 more convenient, we can just work from the
23 physical copy. That's fine. We don't have to
24 take up screen space with it. So long as you
25 have Exhibit 4 in front of you.

July 22, 2021

1 A. I do.

2 Q. Then we can -- Okey-doke. Let's go
3 to February 12, 2020 at 2115. Do you see that
4 entry there?

5 A. Yes, I do.

6 Q. Can you read that to us?

7 A. Women's Foreign Policy Group.

8 Q. What is the Women's Foreign Policy
9 Group?

10 A. It is an NGO that discusses foreign
11 policy from a woman's perspective.

12 Q. And that NGO is not in any way
13 affiliated with the United Nations; correct?

14 A. I believe it is accredited to the
15 United Nations.

16 Q. And what was the nature of the event
17 that's reflected in this entry on your
18 calendar?

19 **A.** I don't exactly remember the topic
20 of discussion. I receive regular invitations
21 from the Women's Foreign Policy Group to come
22 and hear speakers make presentations. **I'm,**
23 typically, just a participant, a passive
24 participant.

25 Q. In this instance, did you attend the

July 22, 2021

1 event?

2 A. I believe that I did, yes.

3 Q. And were you a speaker at this

4 event?

5 A. No, I was not. I was listening to a

6 presentation. It couldn't have been that

7 interesting because I can't remember it.

8 Q. Let's go down to the bottom of the

9 Page, August -- April 29 at 13:00. Do you see

10 that one says, dialogue entitled COVID-19,

11 strengthening the international system amid

12 global crisis response and recovery?

13 A. I'm sorry, could you repeat the date

14 to me, please?

15 Q. Certainly. It's April 29, 2020 at

16 1300

17 A. Okay. Yes.

18 Q. So you see that that one is titled,

19 dialogue entitled "COVID-19, Strengthening the

20 International System Amid Global Crisis

21 Response and Recovery"?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. What is the nature of the event

24 that's reflected in that calendar entry?

25 A. So UN Missions often host what they

July 22, 2021

1 call side events, and they are, typically,
2 informative meetings where experts are brought
3 to discuss any range of subjects, and that was
4 the prevalent theme at the time.

5 So we may have received an
6 invitation from a UN Mission to attend this
7 side event, which was virtual. And often, we
8 attend just as part of the UN community. We
9 are not participating actually in the dialogue.
10 We are an attendee being informed.

11 Q. And in this instance, do you know
12 whether you were an attendee being informed?

13 A. I certainly was. I knew nothing
14 about pandemic response or recovery as of April
15 2020. We were living the pandemic.

16 Q. We all were.

17 A. Yeah.

18 Q. Okay. You didn't speak at this
19 event?

20 A. No, I did not.

21 Q. Let's go to the entry on May 5, 2020
22 at 1845 hours. I'm just reading the timestamp
23 that's in the margin. I'm not saying that
24 that's right. I think, actually, we know that
25 that's not right but it doesn't matter.

July 22, 2021

1 A. Uh-huh.

2 Q. Phone call with Nabil Abi-Saab; do
3 you see that?

4 A. Yes, I do.

5 Q. Who is Nabil Abi-Saab?

6 A. Nabil is a reporter for a Lebanese
7 paper who is based in the UN press pool.

8 Q. Got it. And can you tell me the
9 nature of the conversation -- well, strike --
10 yeah, the nature of the conversation that you
11 had with Mr. Nabil Abi-Saab that's reflected in
12 this calendar entry?

13 A. Nabil was reaching out to me to get
14 an update, background information on our
15 interactions at the UN at that time, because he
16 had been absent for two months and he wanted me
17 to get him back up to speed.

18 Q. Do you recall the topics on which he
19 wanted you to get him back up to speed?

20 A. It was about our interactions with
21 UN Security Council members on the threat of
22 annexation.

23 Q. And during this conversation, do you
24 recall what information you provided to
25 Mr. Abi-Saab?

THESE PAGES HAVE BEEN
INTENTIONALLY OMITTED

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1 representative of Palestine at the UN to speak
2 with one of their reporters about the efforts
3 at the UN to engage Security Council in the
4 context of a ceasefire.

5 Q. And who is Carol, if you know?

6 A. She was the outreach coordinator of
7 NPR that contacted the Mission to seek an
8 interview.

9 Q. And do you remember, were they
10 seeking an interview with you?

11 A. They were seeking an interview with
12 Ambassador Mansour.

13 Q. And did Ambassador Mansour
14 participate in an interview in response to this
15 call?

16 A. He was unable to participate, to
17 fulfill their interview request, and he passed
18 it on to me.

19 Q. Understood. So you participated in
20 an interview with a reporter from NPR; correct?

21 A. Correct.

22 Q. How was that interview conducted?

23 A. It was conducted on the phone.

24 Q. And do you know the name of the
25 reporter who interviewed you?

July 22, 2021

1 A. I think her name was Mary Louise
2 Kelly.

3 Q. And was that the -- is that the --
4 let me withdraw and try again.

5 Was that the only time you have been
6 interviewed by a member of the media during
7 2021?

8 A. That is correct.

9 MR. SINAIKO: Bring up Tab 20,
10 please. I would like to mark this as our next
11 exhibit. I think it will be Exhibit 7.

12 THE COURT REPORTER: I must
13 have missed 6, then.

14 MR. SINAIKO: Exhibit 6 was
15 the updated privilege log, I think.

16 (Deposition Exhibit No. 7 was
17 marked for identification.)

18 BY MR. SINAIKO:

19 Q. So this is -- I will just, for the
20 record, I'll just mention what it is. We are
21 going to mark as Exhibit 7, document titled
22 Palestinian Official Discusses How the UN Can
23 Help End Violence in Israel and Gaza.

24 Do you see that, Ambassador
25 Abdelhady-Nasser?

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1 A. Yes, I do.

2 Q. Do you see that that's dated May 19,
3 2021?

4 A. Yes, I do.

5 Q. And, again, if you would like to
6 turn the pages of the thing, I would be happy
7 to do it. Just let us know and Cosette can do
8 that for you.

9 I would like to know whether you
10 agree that this is a transcript of the
11 interview you gave to Mary Louise Kelly, on NPR
12 Radio, on May 19, 2021.

13 MR. BERGER: Let's see the
14 other pages, please.

15 MR. SINAIKO: Certainly. As I
16 said, she is welcome to look at the pages, as
17 many of them as she likes for as long as she
18 likes. I mean, there aren't that many.

19 THE WITNESS: Okay.

20 BY MR. SINAIKO:

21 Q. So are we in agreement that that's
22 an accurate transcription of your interview, on
23 May 19, 2021, with Mary Louise Kelly of
24 National Public Radio?

25 A. Yes, it appears to be so.

THESE PAGES HAVE BEEN
INTENTIONALLY OMITTED